

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claims 1-20 are requested to be cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 21-31 are being added. No new matter has been added.

This amendment adds and deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 21-31 are now pending in this application.

Allowable subject matter

Applicant appreciates the indication that claims 6 and 10 contain allowable subject matter. Claims 6 and 10 have been cancelled. New claims 26 and 29, however, although different from claims 6 and 10, respectively, are believed to include the patentable features of these claims, respectively, and thus claims 26 and 29 are believed to be in patentable form.

Abstract

The abstract has been amended to be within the range of 50 to 150 words.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

Claims 1, 2, 11, 12, 16 and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,392,897 to Nakase et al. (hereafter "Nakase"). Claims 3, 4, 13, 14, 18 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Applicant's Admitted Prior Art (hereafter "AAPA") and U.S. Patent No. 6,328,572 to Higashida et al. (hereafter "Higashida"). Claims 5, 7-9, 15 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Nakase in view of the AAPA, and further in view of The PC Hardware Book (hereafter "PC Hardware"). These rejections are moot with

respect to claims 1-5, 7-9, and 11-20, which have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

With respect to independent claims 26 and 29, and claims 27, 28, 30 and 31, which depend from one of claims 26 and 29, this rejection is also moot in light of the incorporation of allowable subject matter from original claims 6 and 10 into claims 26 and 29 as discussed above.

Insofar as the above rejections pertain to new independent claim 21 and claims 22-25 which depend therefrom, applicant respectfully traverses this rejection for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 21 is directed to an electronic apparatus provided with a first memory device and a second memory device which can be removably stored in a relatively flat space. In this regard, the electronic apparatus includes first and second sockets for supporting the first and second memory devices, respectively, where the first and second sockets are mounted horizontally on a board of the apparatus. The apparatus also includes a controller and a resistance, where the first and second sockets, controller and resistance are connected with each other by pattern wiring, wherein the pattern wiring is located in a preset position other than a position in which the first and second sockets are located. This arrangement of the sockets and the wiring connecting the sockets, controller and resistance, wherein the pattern wiring is located in a preset position other than a position in which the first and second sockets are located, provides advantages. Specifically, a change of impedance of the wiring by the first and second memory devices is prevented. As a result, the electronic apparatus may transfer a signal at high speed and with stability.

Nakase fails to disclose or suggest the invention of claim 1, at least because Nakase discloses memory modules 1a and 1b arranged vertically with respect to the surface of the board 9. Thus in contrast to claim 1, Nakase fails to suggest first and second sockets mounted horizontally on a board of the apparatus, where the first and second sockets are then wired to a controller and resistance also mounted on the same board. Nakase has nothing to

do with the applicant's technique of arranging memory modules in a relatively flat space as embodied in claim 1.

Higashida and the AAPA also fail to suggest the invention of claim 21 or its attendant advantages. Higashida and the AAPA merely disclose a multi-layered circuit board, and do not disclose the specific wiring arrangement as claimed. Moreover, neither Higashida nor the AAPA discloses the problem where the impedance of signal lines is affected by memory modules, much less the solution as embodied in claim 1, where the pattern wiring connecting the sockets, controller and resistance is located in a preset position other than a position in which the first and second sockets are located. Thus, Higashida and the AAPA also fail to suggest the invention of claim 21.

PC Hardware fails to cure the deficiencies of Higashida, or the AAPA. PC Hardware was cited for allegedly teaching a means for generating a clock signal, but also fails to disclose that Higashida, or the AAPA should be modified such that the pattern wiring connecting the sockets, controller and resistance is located in a preset position other than a position in which the first and second sockets are located.

Applicant believes that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

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